

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-8. (Canceled).

9. (Currently Amended) A cadmium negative electrode for an alkaline storage battery comprising a porous, sintered nickel coated electrode substrate having its pores filled with a cadmium active substance containing  $\beta$ -Cd(OH)<sub>2</sub> and a polyethylene glycol coating covering at least one of a surface of said electrode substrate, which exposes to the surface of the electrode, and a surface of said cadmium active substance, which exposes to the surface of the electrode, wherein said polyethylene glycol has a mean molecular weight of 600 or higher but not more than 20000.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a cadmium negative electrode for alkaline batteries, which comprises a porous, nickel-coated sintered electrode core body, the process comprising the steps of:

- (a) coating a surface of a porous electrically conductive core body with nickel powder,
- (b) drying and sintering the product of step (a) to form a nickel sintered electrically conductive core body,
- (c) immersing the nickel sintered electrically conductive core body in an impregnating solution containing cadmium nitrate,
- (d) drying,

(e) subjecting the dry nickel sintered electrically conductive core body to alkali treatment so that the pores of the nickel sintered core body are filled with cadmium hydroxide to produce a cadmium negative electrode, and

(f) applying polyethylene glycol to a surface of said cadmium negative electrode, which exposes to a surface of the electrode, and a surface of said cadmium hydroxide containing  $\beta$ - $\text{Cd}(\text{OH})_2$ , which exposes to a surface of the electrode, by coating or impregnating with polyethylene glycol having a mean molecular weight of 600 or higher but not more than 20000 dissolved in a solvent.

12. (Currently Amended) The method for producing a cadmium negative electrode for an alkaline battery as claimed in Claim 11, wherein, in step (f), said cadmium negative electrode is coated or impregnated with a solution of polyethylene glycol ~~having a mean molecular weight of 600 or higher but not more than 20000 dissolved in a solvent.~~

13. (Previously Presented) The method for producing a cadmium negative electrode for an alkaline battery as claimed in Claim 11, further comprising a step of (g) drying the cadmium negative electrode after coating or impregnating said active-substance impregnated substrate with said polyethylene glycol.

14. (Previously Presented) The method for producing a cadmium negative electrode for an alkaline battery as claimed in Claim 12, further comprising a step of (g) drying the cadmium negative electrode after coating or impregnating said active-substance impregnated substrate with said polyethylene glycol.

15. (Previously Presented) An alkaline storage battery comprising:  
a nickel positive electrode;  
a negative electrode;

a separator which separates the positive electrode from the negative electrode;

alkaline electrolyte; and

an outer can which houses the positive electrode, the negative electrode, the separator and the alkaline electrolyte therein;

wherein said negative electrode is a cadmium negative electrode as claimed in claim 9.

16. (Previously Presented) A method for producing an alkaline storage battery comprising the steps of:

producing a nickel positive electrode;

producing a negative electrode;

opposing the positive electrode and the negative electrode through a separator;

housing the positive electrode, the negative electrode, the separator in an outer can with alkaline electrolyte,

wherein said negative electrode is produced by the method for producing a cadmium negative electrode as claimed in claim 11.